Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 02985 212304Z ACTION EB-08

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R 210837Z APR 78 FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3785 INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

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BRUSSELS AND MONROVIA FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR, XY, SG

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY VISIT

REF: (A) STATE 13593, (B) STATE 77402

1. SINCE VISIT BY FAA SECURITY SPECIALIST PUGLISI, EMBASSY HAS HAD FREQUENT CONTACT WITH LOCAL AVIATION AUTHORITIES IN CONNECTION WITH BROAD RANGE OF AVIATION MATTERS INCLUDING BILATERAL CIVAIR ACCORD NEGOTIATIONS, FEBRUARY 14-15 FAA DEMONSTRATION OF TRSB MICROWAVE LANDING SYSTEM, OTHER MISSIONS BY FAA PERSONNEL, NUMEROUS VISITS BY OFFICIAL U.S. AIRCRAFT, AND TRADE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPPLY OF AIRPORT LIGHTING AND COMMUNICATIONS GEAR. SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS ARE A RECURRENT ELEMENT IN THESE CONSULTATIONS WITH SENEGALESE AND ASECNA AUTHORITIES. MISSION OFFICERS ALSO MEET PERIODICALLY WITH LOCAL SECURITY OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS SECURITY SITUATION AT AIRPORT AND ELSZWHERE. AS IN APRIL 19 MEETING HELD ON EVE OF OPENING OF PREPARATORY MEETINGS FOR ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE NEXT WEEK IN DAKAR.

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PAGE 02 DAKAR 02985 212304Z

2. SENEGALESE ARE AWARE OF FAA SECURITY TRAINING PROGRAM, AND ASSIGNED FOUR SENEGALESE OFFICIALS TO FAA SECURITY COURSE IN OKLAHOMA IN MID-1977. PARTICIPATING OFFICIALS DREW UP PLAN FOR STEPPED UP SECURITY OF YOFF AIRPORT RESPONDING IN LARGE MEASURE TO DEFICIENCIES DESCRIBED REFTEL A. WE UNDERSTAND PLAN WAS REVIEWED AND

CRITIQUED BY FAA SECURITY SPECIALISTS ADMINISTERING COURSE. IN THE MONTHS SINCE RETURN OF SENEGALESE PARTICIPANTS, SUBSTANTIAL STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO IMPROVE AIRPORT SECURITY INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION OF PERIMETER FENCE, INSTALLATION OF BOOTHS AND ACQUISITION OF NEW EQUIPMENT FOR SEARCHING PASSENGERS, ESTABLISHMENT OF IMPROVED FACILITIES FOR CONTROL OF MOVEMENT TO AND FROM PASSENGER HOLD AREAS, TIGHTER CONTROLS OVER ACCESS TO TARMAC, ETC. HOWEVER, OVERALL CONTROLS ARE STILL FAR FROM TIGHT, AND SUCX NEEDED MEASURES AS FULL SEGREGATION OF VISITORS AND SCREENED AND TR NSIT PASSENGERS HAVE NOT YET BEEN ACCOMPLISHEDTX COMPLETE IMPLEEETATION OF PLAN DGAWN UP IN ACCORDANCE WITH FAA RECOMMENDATIONS AWAITS FINAL FUNDING RELEASE FROM ASECNA. IN APRIL 19 MEETING AIRPORT SECURITY OFFICIALS TOLD EMBOFF THAT THEY EXPECTED THAT NECESSARY APPROPRIATION WOULD BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO URGE THAT FULL SECURITY PLAN BE IMPLEMENTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. EMBASSY HOPES FAA WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE NOTICE WITH AMPLE LEAD TIME OF UPCOMING SECURITY COURSES IN FRENCH OPEN TO SENEGALESE PARTICIPANTS, PARTICULARLY COURSES FOR WHICH USG FUNDING OF PARTICIPATION COSTS IS AVAILABLE.

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